U.S. Explodes Secret A-Bombs Miles Above the Earth

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States has fired three secret nuclear bomb blasts at "enormous altitudes," creating an electronic sheet that circled most of the world.

Officials said Wednesday night the tests are of both scientific and military interest.

The blasts were detonated above the earth's atmosphere, but the height was not disclosed.

Deputy defence secretary Donald Quarles and Dr. Herbert York, director of Pentagon research, confirmed that the secret shots were fired over the south Atlantic late last September.

York said the electronic sheet created by the bomb blasts extended around the whole world except for breaks over both the North and South poles.

The circling pattern was similar to that of the Van Allen radiation belt—a mysterious band of radiation beginning at about 1,000 miles above the earth.

York said that because of the extremely high altitude of the detonations, there would be no fallout of radioactive material from the bombs upon the earth.

The non-military part of the test, York added, was to find out more about the nature and origin of the Van Allen belt.

In reply to questions about the experiment, the defence department said:

"The experiments provided data about the earth's magnetic field which supplemented data about natural radiation observed by the Explorer satellites last spring and revealed by Dr. James Van Allen, the physicist."

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Island forecast, sunny periods, clouding over

(Details on page 3)

B.C. ACTS TO OUTLAW PICKETING BY SERVANTS

Bill Becomes Law In Event of Strike

By ALEC MERRIMAN

The Social Credit government moved last night to enact legislation which will ban any future strike picketing by civil servants.

Attorney-General Bonner introduced a bill in the legislature amending the Constitution Act to provide the basis for an unquestionable continuing injunction in the case of picketing by civil servants.

The bill outlaws picketing, but makes no mention of strike action. It will not become law until it is proclaimed by the provincial cabinet and, unless civil servants again threaten to strike, that may never be necessary.

CALLED TO ORDER

When it was introduced in the House, Opposition Leader Robert Strachan said "what a damnable piece of legislation" and was quickly called to order by Mr. Speaker.

Even while the bill was being introduced, MLAs were anxiously awaiting word of the decision of Mr. Justice J. G. Ruttan on the Supreme Court hearing on the injunciton granted the government last Friday against picketing by the 11,250-member B.C. Government Employees' Association.

But no matter what the decision is in the hearing, the new bill will give the government power to stop any future picketing by civil servants.

STATEMENT ISSUED

A statement issued by a government spokesman made reference to last Friday's strike by B.C.'s 14,000 government employees, which was effective for about four hours until the government got a no-picketing injunction.

"On Friday, March 13, an unprecedented disruption occured in the provincial public services," the spokesman said.

"This event was called a strike to borrow parlance of industrial relations. It was in fact a taking over . . . an usurpation . . . by persons not elected or responsible to the public of the province of the functions of government.

PATIENTS ENDANGERED

"This incident was marked by endangerment of patients and inmates of certain provincial institutions by loss of heat and curtailment of supervision and catering, interference with crown revenues, and interruption of the statutory function of executive branches of government and of our courts of law.

"Public inconvenience was frankly intended, as was apparent by the apology for such inconvenience displayed on placards during the incident.

"It is obvious that the executive must ensure the continuation without interference or interruption of public services provided by the crown in the right of the province. This measure is intended to deal with such interference should it occur."

LAW IN MINUTES

The new bill gives the cabinet a "club" to hold over the civil servants and in case of threatened strike action could become law in a matter of minutes.

Then the way would be paved for a continuing injuction, which would rule out any continuation of last Friday's picketing or any picketing in the future.

The act does not include employees of the PGE Railway.

Continued on Page 7

* * *

But Possible?

Strike Position Difficult

The president of the British Columbia Government Employees Association said last night, changes in the Constitution Act, in his opinion, may not make a strike of government workers impossible.

Walter Ellsay said the legislation "will make a strike difficult but not impossible."

"It appears to deprive us of what has become a basic right of organized labor—the right to strike — without providing an effective substitute."

Mr. Ellsay and other officials of the association declined further comment until they have had an opportunity to study and discuss the legislation with legal counsel.

The president of the British

Continued on Page 7

Injunction Decision Awaited

VANCOUVER (CP) — A decision still was awaited here late Wednesday on Tuesday's Supreme Court hearing on a bid for an injunction between the British Columbia Government and its civil servants over picketing rights.

Mr. Justice J. G. Rattan said late Wednesday afternoon he still was working on the judgment and he had no indication when the decision might be handed down.

MLAs Ready To Sit All Night

Members of the legislature were preparing at midnight last night for another wearying all-night session of the legislature as the government seemed to be trying to clear the business of the House for prorogation today or tomorrow. Debate centred on the controversial Trades Unions Act and a newly-introduced bill outlawing picketing by provincial government employees.

'Thinning Out' Idea

Canada Adds Her Voice To Mac's Plan

OTTAWA (UPI)—British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan yesterday added Canada to the list of western nations backing his plan for a "thinning out" of military forces in central Europe.

Macmillan puts his proposals to their stiffest test today in washington talks with President Eisenhower.

Diplomatic sources said Prime Minister Diefenbaker pledged 100 per cent Canadian government support to Macmillan's bid to sell the president on the need for some limitation on both East and West military forces in Germany. Macmillan won similar backing from France and West Germany which he visited after his recent mission to Moscow.

WIDER ISSUE, TOO

Macmillan wants his plan for a partial disarmament in central Europe to head Western policy in negotiations with the Soviet Union over Germany, the sources said. The British leader himself told newsmen at the airport on his arrival from London that the West must negotiate "this summer" with the U.S.S.R. on Berlin and the wider issue of European security.

Macmillan's day-long talks with Mr. Diefenbaker were interrupted only by a 40-minute visit to the House of Commons where he received a desk-thumping ovation and hear party leaders praise his "tremendous inspiration to peoples of the free world."

NOT DISENGAGEMENT

Sources stressed that Macmillan's plan, as laid before the Canadian prime minister, involved not disengagement, as has been popularly reported, but rather a reduction in present forces. The British prime minister did not advocate the creation of any type of "military vacuum" in central Europe. The sources said.

Macmillan told reporters he and Lloyd made their Soviet trip in the hope it would "be useful for peace."

"Of course there are wide differences between the Soviet Union and the Western powers," he said. "But before we went it was by no means certain that an attempt would be made to resolve those differences by negotiation rather than by unilateral action.

"I believe that it is now generally accepted that there must be negotiations in the course of this summer. This is a great gain. It now remains to work out and confirm our common policy with our allies."

Cheap Glue Cut Costs For Arena

LISTOWEL, Ont. (CP)—Peter Straiton, former president of the company that built laminated wooden trusses for the ill-fated Listowel arena, testified Wednesday the cheaper of two types of glue was used in their construction.

The inquest also heard that the number of trusses planned for arena was reduced to 11 from 14 because of their cost and after consultation with a salesman for Straiton's company.

Don't Miss

Money for Bills Goes for Liquor
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Oak Bay Pressure Still on Dogs
(Page 10)

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No Restocking In Bass Lakes
(Page 14)

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Illiterate B.C. Boy Reached Grade 7
(Page 18)

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Radio Majority Must Be Served
(Page 37)

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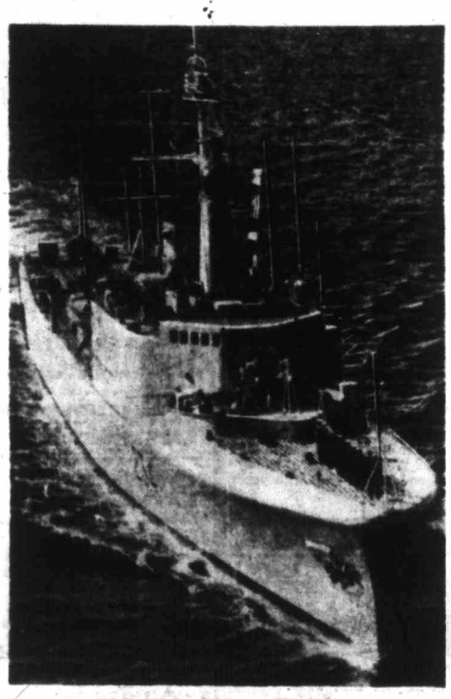
Sommers Ruling Today

VANCOUVER (CP) — Decision in the appeal of Robert Sommers and H. Wilson Gray, convicted of bribery and conspiracy, is due at 11 a.m. today in Appeal Court chambers here.



Escort Due Friday

Arriving at Esquimalt Friday morning is HMCS Assiniboine, one of four St. Laurent class destroyer escorts being transferred from Atlantic Command to this coast. Returning with her are Fraser, Margaree and Skeena, ending two-month exercise.

Sentence Suspended

Reisch Guilty Of Manslaughter

Adam Reisch, Austrian immigrant herdsman of Central Saanich, was given a one-year suspended sentence last night after being found guilty of manslaughter in the shooting death of a next door neighbor's six-year-old son.

He was freed on $500 bond after sentence was pronounced by Mr. Justice H. A. Maclean in Assize Court at 10 p.m.

The guilty verdict was returned by the jury after nearly five hours' deliberation.

The 35-year-old herdsman was charged in connection with the death of Arrie Schut, son of the next-door neighbors to the Reisch property on Veyaness Road.

The youngster was fatally wounded by a .22 rifle bullet as he was playing with other youngsters, Dec. 21, in a field near rabbit pens behind the Reisch house.

Yesterday the accused testified he had fired at a dog and hadn't seen any children in the vicinity at all.

He said he shot at the dog because it had been molesting rabbits in hutches behind his home.

The rabbits, he said, were his sole source of meat. As a herdsman, he said, he earned $225 a month before taxes. Payments on his land, on building materials for the new house he was building, and other necessary outlays left him with about $400 a month to live on.

The dog, he said, had been releasing the rabbits from their hutches, or frightening mother rabbits into destroying their young, and thus was a direct threat to his food supply.

The jury was reminded of

Continued on Page 7

New Altimeter Out In Crashed Jetliner

NEW YORK (UPI) — The co-pilot of a turbo-prop airliner that crashed into the East River near La Guardia airport last month killing 65 persons testified yesterday that the plane's new-style altimeter indicated it was 500 feet high when it hit the water.

Co-pilot Frank S. Hlavacek, 33, Wilmette, Ill., told a civil aeronautics board hearing that Capt. Labert H. Dewitt, 59, was at the controls of the Chicago-New York American airliner Feb. 3 when it crashed on an instrument landing approach in a rainstorm. Dewitt was killed in the crash.

Hlavacek, one of eight survivors of the 73 persons aboard the plane, said he had given a reading of 800 feet from the altimeter earlier during the descent, and the reading was confirmed by Dewitt reading a second altimeter.

"I recall noting 500 on the altimeter and before I could say anything we hit the water," Hlavacek testified.

No Defence Against Missiles

CHICAGO (UPI)—The U.S. army's top researcher said yesterday the United States has "absolutely no defense" against an intercontinental ballistic missile.

He added, however, he didn't think Russia had an anti-missile missile, either.

Lt.-Gen. Arthur Trudeau, army chief of research and development, said the best prospective U.S. counter weapon won't be ready for operational use before 1965 unless the "powers that be" give a green light for a speed-up in its development.

Gen. Trudeau said a new radar warning line now under construction in Canada won't protect the United States against ICBM attack. In order for the Strategic Air Command to have a 10 minute warning of oncoming attack, he said, any warning system "would have to detect an ICBM 2,400 miles distant."

Stubborn Skipper Hangs On

CASABLANCA, Morocco (UPI) — A stubborn Italian skipper clung tenaciously to the bridge of his wave-battered wine tanker on the rocks off the Moroccan coast yesterday, determined to save it from salvage hunters.

Capt. Manlio Petris remained alone aboard the 600-ton Lisa which piled onto the rocks during a violent storm with a cargo of 237,780 gallons of red wine from Tunisia and Morocco. U.S. airforce helicopters plucked off his 11-man crew after the grounding.

As long as Petris stuck to his post the little vessel could not be declared a derelict, and no salvage tug could claim the cargo by casting a twoline over her bow.

MIKHAIL SUSLOV

* * *

Red Denies Ultimatum On Berlin

LONDON (CP) — Mikhail Suslov, a Kremlin leader, told British Labor party leaders Wednesday night Moscow has presented no ultimatum over Berlin and wants to settle the issue in East-West conferences.

Suslov addressed Labor MPs at a meeting in a private room of the House of Commons.

Suslov said Russia has no desire to change the social status of West Berliners or to impose on them a social system they do not want.

Gen. Burns RCMP Chief?

OTTAWA (CP) — Maj.-Gen. E. L. M. Burns is among those being mentioned as possible successor to RCMP Commissioner L. H. Nicholson, whose resignation was announced Monday.

Gen. Burns was deputy minister of veterans affairs before being loaned by Canada for his present job as commander of the United Nations Emergency Force in the Middle East.

Tsawwassen Site For Ferry Likely

Proposals for a $2,000,000 to $3,000,000 ferry terminal at Tsawwassen are now being considered by the Highways and Toll Bridge Authority, The Daily Colonist learned last night.

It was learned that the Tsawwassen site is favored over other suggested terminals at Steveston, White Rock and the tip of Point Roberts. Highway Minister Philip Gaglardi said only a few more depth soundings are required before a definite decision will be made.

SIDNEY SET

It is planned to use the new Sidney wharf for the Vancouver Island terminus.

Work on the Tsawwassen site is expected to start about June. The two $3,000,000 ferries are scheduled for delivery next February and for operation shortly after.

It will necessitate construction of an 8,000-foot breakwater going out at an angle across from Delta Flats. Experts say it will provide a good shelter. New roads will connect with the proposed international highway via Deas tunnel.

The run will take about two hours and 15 minutes, the shortest and most direct route.

Hospital Out of Red

Royal Jubilee Hospital broke through into the black in 1958—for the first time in 15 years — recording a $13,000 profit. For full details of the hospital's annual report, see Page 38.

Spring's Floral Heralds To Be Delivered Today

Spring will arrive at three major Victoria hospitals today as volunteers deliver masses of the season's flowers donated by gardeners and growers in the area.

The flowers for hospital rooms and wards will mark the first distribution this year under The Daily Colonist Share the Flowers plan to bring the spring blooms from the gardens of the city to the bedsides of shut-ins.

Flower donors are asked to have blossoms cut and ready to be picked up between 9 and 10 a.m. by volunteer drivers for early distribution at Veterans, Royal Jubilee and St. Joseph's Hospitals.

The blooms will be made ready at The Daily Colonist downtown office by volunteer workers before being delivered at the hospitals.

A plentiful supply of blooms have been promised for the annual distribution first started five years ago.